Hepatitis C Virus
IN IOWA

IDPH
Iowa Department
of Public Health

WHAT IS HEPATITIS C?

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). HCV is the most common blood-borne illness in the United States. Hepatitis C can cause serious health problems, including liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer, and even death.

HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE HCV?

As of March 2016, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) had received 21,748 reports of hepatitis C infection among Iowans. Based on this number of reports, there are likely 35,865 to 136,900 Iowans with hepatitis C infections, with **15,330** to **117,174** of these **cases undiagnosed**.

WHERE IN IOWA?

Over 55% of people living with HCV who were ages 18 to 64 reported residency in one of six counties: **Polk**, **Linn**, **Scott**, **Woodbury**, **Pottawattamie**, and **Black Hawk**.

HEPATITIS C CASES ARE INCREASING

HCV diagnoses have increased sharply in Iowa since 2000. Over 2,000 Iowans were diagnosed in 2015, **an increase of 182% since 2000.** HCV diagnoses among those between ages 18 to 30 have increased 300% since 2009.

WHO SHOULD GET TESTED

- Those who currently or have *ever* injected drugs
- Those who were born between *1945 and 1965*
- Those who received blood transfusion or organ transplant before 1992
- Those who are living with HIV

For more information on hepatitis C and to view the recently released profile of Hepatitis C in Iowa, please visit: http://idph.iowa.gov/hivstdhep/hep/hep-c.
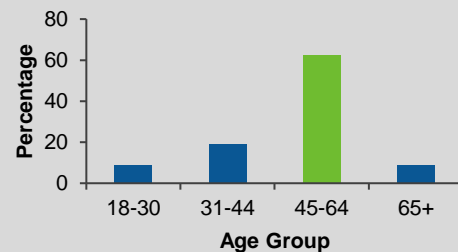
Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis
Iowa Department of Public Health
321 E 12th St.
Des Moines. IA. 50319-0075
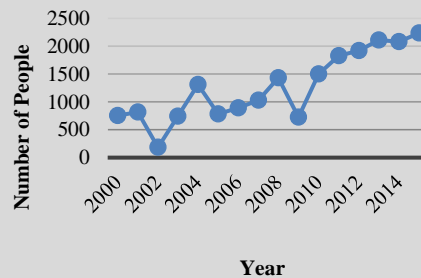
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WHO IS INFECTED?

63% of hepatitis C cases reported to IDPH as of March 2016 were among people between 45 and 64 years of age. However, many new cases are among those 30 years of age and younger.

Age Distribution of People Living with HCV

Hepatitis C Cases Reported Each Year

Men make up a majority of Hepatitis C cases ever reported to the IDPH.